

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Feb 2, 2009

STATE OF UTAH

SCHOOL & INSTITUTIONAL TRUST LANDS ADMINISTRATION

675 EAST 500 SOUTH, SUITE 500

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84102

TRUST LANDS HIRES ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER

The School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) has hired Sonja F. Wallace as its first manager of environmental programs and compliance. Ms. Wallace previously worked with the Utah Department of Environmental Quality as a senior environmental scientist. During her twenty years at DEQ, she coordinated the DEQ's outreach efforts on pollution prevention and technical assistance with Utah businesses, worked as environmental adviser to the State's economic development efforts, and served as DEQ's environmental manager for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games.

At SITLA, Ms Wallace will be responsible for ensuring that industrial and commercial activities on state trust lands are being conducted in accordance with sound environmental management practices and applicable law. She will also provide support to the agency in connection with emerging environmental issues and opportunities, including brownfields remediation and carbon trading and sequestration.

SITLA director Kevin Carter said, "As commercial activities on school trust lands have increased over the years, SITLA has recognized the need for sound environmental management to ensure that trust lands are maintained as a valuable asset for future generations of our trust beneficiaries. Sonja Wallace has a track record of working with the business community while protecting the state's environment. We welcome her to the Trust Lands Administration."

SITLA manages 3.5 million acres of state trust lands granted to the State of Utah at statehood for the support of public education, universities, and other state institutions. Money generated from school trust lands is deposited in the state Permanent School Fund, a perpetual endowment that annually distributes income to each K-12 public school in Utah.

[Photo available upon request]

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CONTACT:

Dave Hebertson 801-538-5102

NormaLee McMichael 801-538-5105